



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

29 December 1978

Admiral Stansfield Turner, U.S. Navy
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
CIA Headquarters
Langley, Virginia 20505

Dear Stan:

I write this letter on the occasion of your retirement from the Navy with very mixed emotions. On the one hand, I take genuine pleasure in extending on behalf of the entire Navy family our thanks and appreciation for your more than thirty-three years of distinguished service in an incredibly broad spectrum of operational, staff and academic assignments. You have definitely set a standard for excellence that will serve as a goal for young officers for many years to come.

On the other hand, I hate to see the Navy deprived of your great talents at a time when they are needed most. I don't in any sense denigrate the importance of the great job you are doing as Director, Central Intelligence Agency, but I truly feel that the Navy needs you even more. If we are to remain strong twenty years from now, we need more emphasis on innovation now. I fear that the inevitable pressures of the budgetary process are stifling this. Your innovative leadership would be a great help and comfort in these difficult times.

I join your many friends in wishing you the best of success in the years to come. We are all working toward the same objective for our country, and I certainly want to be of any assistance to you I can in your present critically important assignment. You have already contributed much to our Navy and the United States, and I am confident of the immeasurable value of the contribution to our country's future security you will be making in the years ahead.

Frances joins me in sending our warmest good wishes to you and Pat.

Sincerely,

W. Graham Claytor, Jr.

*Copy sent to
D's family
with 9 Jan 79 family letter*